

The Investigative Committee of the Georgia Board of Nursing met Thursday, October 4, 2018 via conference call at the Professional Licensing Boards Division of the Secretary of State located at 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

## **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2018**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Julia Worthy, RN, MSN  
Darrell Thompson, RN, DNP, ACNP-BC, FNP-BC  
Tracey Blalock, RN, MSN, MBA, NEA-BC  
Nancy Barton, RN, MSN

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tina Fletcher, LPN

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Jim Cleghorn, Executive Director  
Janet Freeman, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Edey Tillman-Johnson, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Tara Miller, RN, BSN, Nursing Consultant – Legal/Discipline  
Betsy Cohen, JD, Assistant Attorney General

Worthy called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 4, 2018.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Barton moved, Thompson seconded and the Committee voted to enter into **Executive Session** in accordance with O.C.G.A. §§ 43-1-2(k); 43-1-19(h), 43-26-5(c) and 43-26-11, to deliberate on applications and enforcement matters and to receive information on applications, investigative reports and pending cases. The motion passed unanimously.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session on Thursday, October 4, 2018 Worthy declared the meeting to be “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act, O.C.G.A. §§ 50-14-1 et seq. No votes were taken during executive session.

### **INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE CASES**

(LPNI = Licensed Practical Nurse Investigative Case Number) (RNI=Registered Nurse Investigative Case Number)

Thompson moved to present the following recommendations to the Board.

**RNI190066** – Send a letter to the complainant requesting additional information. If unable to identify the nurse, close the case.

**LPNI190026** – Refer to Office of Inspector General and request additional information from the facility.

**RNI190071** – Close case with no disciplinary action.

**LPNI180252** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Jurisprudence- Georgia LPN.

**LPNI180232** – Refer for a peer review. Upon receipt of the results, refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include two (2) years probation, a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct, quarterly reports (personal, employer), courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know and Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses.

**LPNI190108** – Must have graduated from an approved practical nursing program to be eligible for licensure as a practical nurse. Applicant may withdraw application.

**LPNI190109** – License as a LPN.

**RNI190239** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator and one full quarter of compliance with the consent order. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. No inactive status.

**LPNI130158** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with twelve (12) months of continuous sobriety and an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

**LPNI150053** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator and one full quarter of compliance with the consent order. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

**RNI170915** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for an expedited outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant, refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with submission of mental physical examination and one full quarter of compliance of the consent order.

**RNI190280** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for a Continuing Education violation.

**RNI190035** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public consent order to include five (5) years probation, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy – addictionologist (monthly visits), medication management), monthly PETH tests for twenty-four (24) months and quarterly urine drug screens throughout the order), Substance Abuse Stipulations, standard work restrictions, a fine of \$500 for violation of consent order, courses in Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Substance Use and Addiction Disorders and a new sobriety date.

**RNI190278** – Must complete a 320 hour preceptorship as a condition of licensure.

**LPNI190020** – Refer to Attorney General's Office and combine finding of fact with case LPNI180132.

**RNI170290** – Request an outpatient mental physical examination for consideration of licensure from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

**LPNI180390** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office to license by endorsement with a public reprimand to include a fine of \$900 for Unlicensed Practice.

**RNI190274** – Grant authorization to practice as an APRN. Maintain the same requirements under current consent order.

**RNI190275** – License by endorsement with a Letter of Concern (Action in Another Jurisdiction).

**LPNI170458** – Refer back to the Office of Inspector General for additional information.

**LPNI190105** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a private consent order to include a fine of \$500 for a Continuing Education violation.

**RNI181193** – Close the case with no disciplinary action.

**LPNI190107** – Send the applicant a letter requesting an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator as a consideration of the application. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

**RNI190001** – Refer for an Investigative Interview.

**RNI181373** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a public reprimand to include five (5) years probation, two (2) years narcotic restrictions, quarterly reports (self, employer, aftercare, psychotherapy, medication management) quarterly hair follicle tests for 24 months, quarterly urine drug screenings throughout the order, Substance Abuse Stipulations, prescriptive authority restriction (narcotics) for two (2) years, courses in Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing, Righting a Wrong: Ethics and Professionalism in Nursing,

and Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, a fine of \$500 for Unprofessional Conduct. Must submit final disposition of criminal case within ten (10) days of adjudication.

**LPNI160006** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a voluntary surrender or an indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator and one (1) full quarter of compliance with the consent order. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

**RNI161069** – Send an investigative letter requesting courses in Professional Accountability and Legal Liability for Nurses, Disciplinary Actions: What Every Nurse Should Know, Ethics of Nursing Practice and Understanding Substance Use Disorder in Nursing.

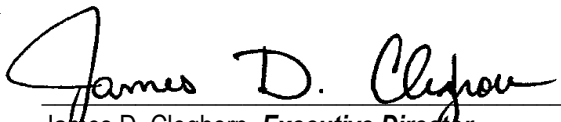
**RNI190252** – Refer to the Attorney General's Office for a summary suspension or a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension. May petition to lift with twenty-four (24) months of documented sobriety and an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator as a consideration of the application. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant.

**RNI181438** – If no safe to practice statement, refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with a mental physical examination.

**RNI190104** – If no safe to practice statement, refer to the Attorney General's Office for an outpatient mental physical examination from a Board approved evaluator. Results are to be reviewed by the Investigative Committee and the Legal/Discipline Nurse Consultant. If non-compliant refer for a voluntary surrender or indefinite suspension and deny the renewal. May petition to lift with a mental physical examination.

Barton seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned Thursday, October 4, 2018 at 5:18 p.m.

  
James D. Cleghorn, **Executive Director**